## House Republican Press Release

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## Governor Rell Announces \$75,000 For Fairfield Museum and History Center



Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced that \$75,000 will be available to make improvements to the Fairfield Museum and History Center when the State Bond Commission meets August 18<sup>th</sup>.

"The Fairfield Town Hall Green is a beautiful place that captures the character of Connecticut,"

Governor Rell said. "It is my hope that the Museum and History Center, situated on the Green, will one day be looked upon as a model for towns across the state on how to preserve and protect a municipality's local heritage."

"These funds will help the Museum and History Center to continue to connect both young and old audiences with the town's rich local history," State Senator John McKinney said. "Governor Rell understands that this is a wise investment – one that will pay huge dividends over the long term."

"The governor's announcement will allow the Center to continue to be a place where history comes alive," State Representative Cathy Tymniak said. "Here, the stories of Fairfield's founding fathers are told. This is terrific news for Fairfield."

"I am delighted that Governor Rell has put these funds on the Bond Commission agenda," State Representative Jack Stone said. "The Center is a place that fills residents and visitors with pride. This money assures that even better days are ahead."

A 23-acre tract which was part of the original lots laid out at the founding of Fairfield in 1639, the Green is comprised of the Old Burying Ground and town-owned buildings which are among Fairfield's most historical and architecturally significant structures.

The museum collection contains approximately 15,000 objects, and includes significant collections of clothing and textiles; fine arts; recreational items; archaeological artifacts; shipbuilding, woodworking and agricultural implements; and nautical instruments used by local seamen.

The mission of the Fairfield Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and interpret the history and heritage of the town for present and future generations. Historical Society volunteers assist with exhibition development, collections management, educational programs, genealogical research, membership development, special events and fundraising activities.

The Bond Commission will meet at 10:30 a.m. on August  $18^{th}$  in the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.